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Signs Of Tottering Into Chaos

CHINA SITUATION

New York, May 27.

Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek's dramatic appeal for negotiations to halt the Chinese civil war was believed to be indicating a growing realisation that the nation is tottering on the brink of chaos.

There are strong grounds for the belief that the Chinese Communists would ignore the government's appeal in the belief that the Kuomintang rule is already tottering.

The position of the Central Government—politically, economically and militarily—is steadily sinking. Added to the Communist success in North China was the fact that the store of United States weapons and ammunition supplies with which the Nationalists fought against the Communists is rapidly dwindling. Prospects of replenishment are not certain.

INTENSIVE AGITATION

Inflation is making great strides and the combination of military and economic setbacks is setting off intensive political agitation. The action of the People's Political Council to ask the Communists for negotiations was believed to reflect the mounting concern of the Kuomintang.

The Communists—who predicted at the time the negotiations broke off that events would take exactly the course which has developed—are expected to rebuff the request for participation in new discussions.

The Communists are expected to take such a position for a few more months to see if civil war, inflation and agitation will bring the downfall of the Nationalists, creating a situation in which they would be able to extend Communist control over large new areas in China.

Independent observers here predicted that in this event China probably would be separated into fragmentary sections with some ruled by the Communists, some by local military chieftains and some possibly by the weakened Kuomintang.—United Press

MISSIONARY'S WARNING

Glasgow, May 27.

The Rev. Dr Arthur Taylor of the China Inland Mission told the British Christian Endeavour Convention in Glasgow today that, although Japan had been defeated, she was recovering with cyclonic speed unparalleled in the history of the world.

Those who would develop China's great natural resources should not repeat the mistake that formerly had been made with Japan.

Russia would vie with one another in helping to develop the illimitable inexhaustible resources which made China potentially the richest country in the world.

Secularised China could become a horrible menace. Inspired by the Christian ideal, it could be a wonderful power for good.

The answer lay with the Christian Church.—Reuter.

Mountbatten Tipped As India's Future Gov-Gen.

Reported Returning With 9-Point Plan

London, May 27.

Reliable sources said today that the Viceroy of India, Viscount Mountbatten, upon his return to India would present a "three-tier constitution" under which India would become a Dominion with Lord Mountbatten as Governor General. These sources said Lord Mountbatten would proceed with the plan drawn up by the British Cabinet, despite continued boycott by the Moslem League.

The Cabinet proposals reportedly consist of three sections: firstly, the section embracing the Hindu majority provinces; secondly, the section embracing the Punjab, Northwest Frontier, Sind and Baluchistan; and thirdly, the section embracing Bengal and Assam.

These three sections would deal separately with all matters excluding defence, foreign affairs and communications, which would be portfolios handled by the top tier of the central authority.

On his return to India with the full backing of the British Cabinet, sources said, Lord Mountbatten would seek to apply these same proposals with a revised plan of operation. This, they said, would entail:

(1) Dissolution of the existing interim government and its limited reinstatement under Dominion status.

(2) Formation of three ministries in this government for foreign affairs, defence and communications, to be held by Pandit Nehru the Sikh member Baldev Singh and the Moslem member Liaquat Ali Khan, respectively.

(3) Lord Mountbatten would serve as Governor General, as in other Dominions.

CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLIES

(4) The present Constituent Assembly would function for the A section and a separate Constituent Assembly would be formed for the combined B and C sections.

(5) Representatives of other communities would be allotted certain departments of the main ministries, with ministerial rank.

(6) A suggestion would be offered that an additional ministry be attached to a centre headed by a nominee of the native Princes, to watch the interests of those states which do not join either Constituent Assembly.

(7) All Central Ministers would be responsible to both Constituent Assemblies.

(8) Impartial commissions, including United States representatives, would examine the demands for partition of Bengal and Punjab provinces.

(9) Plebiscites would be held in the Northwest Frontier and Assam, if demanded, to decide their adherence to any section.

Reliable sources said an outline of this plan of procedure had been submitted to the Indian leaders and it was believed to have the "general approval" of both the Congress Party and the Moslem League.—United Press.

NEW MANDATE

London, May 27.

Armed with a mandate giving him wider powers than ever accorded to a Viceroy, Lord Mountbatten will return to New Delhi this week in time to meet the Indian political leaders at the power transfer procedure conference opening on June 2.

Political quarters interpret as evidence of the Cabinet's approval of

(Continued on Page 4)

Same Spirit Still Alive

Philadelphia, May 27.

Harry T. Andrews, Minister of the Union of South Africa to the United States, told the British officers club in Philadelphia today that those who are preparing to count the British Empire out of the international picture was reckoning without the British spirit that survived Dunkirk and the war's darkest days.

He said he could not share the view that the future peace of the world depended solely on Russia, with its vast manpower reserves, and the United States with its great industrial resources.

The British character and "know how" in world affairs will make a "vital contribution to the cause of international stability," he declared.—Associated Press.

BRITISH COMMONWEALTH TO CONSIDER JAP PEACE TERMS

London, May 27.

Consultations to decide the time and place of the British Commonwealth conference to consider peace terms for Japan are under way in London, an official British source said today.

The source said British Government representatives were meeting the High Commissioners of the Dominions to iron out the preliminary problems facing such a conference.

The initiative for the conference, it was learned, was supplied by Australia, which wanted the Commonwealth delegates to gather in Canberra. The New Zealand Government seconded the idea of a Commonwealth conference.

It was believed highly possible that the conference might be held this summer, sandwiched between the crowded spring diplomatic schedule and the September United Nations conference.

Canada and South Africa were expected to announce soon whether Canberra was suitable to them as a gathering place. It was reported that the British Government favoured the Australian capital.

EXPERTS TO ATTEND

Each delegation, it was understood, would be accompanied by teams of military and economic experts to work out detailed suggestions on the demilitarization level of Japanese industry and reparations.

The source believed the conference would be on the basis of a Commonwealth peace treaty draft, to be submitted to the general peace conference on Japan.

Australian quarters felt that the Foreign Secretary, Mr Ernest Bevin, probably would not be able to attend should the conference be held in Canberra. They want Britain, in that event, to be represented by an important senior Cabinet member.—United Press.

BOY ADMITS KILLING 4 PLAYMATES

Lapeer, Michigan, May 27.

Young Oliver Terpenning admitted to the police that he had shot and killed four neighbour children during a wild-flower picking excursion because he "always wondered what it would feel like to kill somebody."

The young killer brushed away an occasional tear and told the police the story of the killing.

The youth's victims were a boy called Stanley Smith, 14, and Stanley's three sisters, Barbara, 10, Gladys, 12, and Jane, two. The youth said the four were in the woods near Imlay City. The two boys were sitting talking.

Oliver said, "I always wondered how it would feel to kill somebody. I got up and walked around behind Stanley and shot him. Stanley's sisters were picking flowers some distance away. I got afraid then and began running toward them. Gladys was walking away with her back toward me and I shot her and then Barbara screamed and I shot her too. I killed Jane last.

The Coroner said 22 calibre shells were found at the murder scene. He said all the four bodies were bruised, indicating the children had been beaten. Barbara's clothes were disarrayed and the Coroner said "It looks like she was attacked."

The Sherriff said the Terpenning family automobile was found abandoned in a town 40 miles away.—United Press.

GUNMEN BLOW UP STATION

Jerusalem, May 27.

Four unknown gunmen today blew up and demolished the Ramleh railway station, 25 miles from Jerusalem.

The four men got off a train which pulled into the station at 10.45 local time. They were carrying baskets and wearing police uniforms.

After disappearing behind the station building, they returned and climbed back into the train before it moved off.

A few minutes later, an explosion shattered the station.

The only casualty reported up to this afternoon was the wife of the station-master who was slightly injured.

A second explosion occurred on a goods train on the Benyamina-Zichron railway line in north Palestine today. No details were available until later this afternoon.—Reuter.

"OUR SOLDIERS"

Jerusalem, May 27.

A person claiming to be a spokesman for the Stern Gang telephoned all Hebrew newspapers in Tel-Aviv tonight and announced that "our soldiers" had blown up Ramleh railway station in retaliation for the British deportation of illegal refugees aboard the ship Mordev Getnoth (Ghetto's Rebels).

The explosion today was the first act of terrorism since the underground declared a truce with the British pending United Nations' settlement of their dispute.

One of the conditions of the truce was cessation of deportations.—United Press.

Lily Marlene Crash

TEN CHARRED BODIES FOUND

Manila, May 27.

Ten charred and unidentified bodies were found in the vicinity of the Lily Marlene wreckage on the slope of Mount Ragan on the border of Cotabato and Lanao in Mindanao, General Rafael Jalandon, who is in charge of rescue operations, reported to President Manuel Roxas tonight.

There is no trace of the seven other people in the plane and the search for them is being continued.

The Lily Marlene was a Philippine Government plane and had been missing for ten days. High Government officials were on board, including a former Cabinet minister and chief of the Philippine Air Force. The plane was found wrecked last Thursday.

The discovery of the ten charred bodies was made by a rescue party whose leader transmitted the finding through "walkie talkie" (telephonic device) to a plane which flew overhead.

General Jalandon said that tomorrow all planes based in Cebu and Dansalan will contact the search parties in a bid to get more information about the seven other missing passengers of the ill-fated Philippine aircraft.

Contact between the ground search parties and planes will be by "walkie talkie". It is now officially confirmed here that there were seventeen aboard the plane when it left Buyan airfield in Cotabato en route for Dansalan.—Reuter.

LEAVING TODAY

Professor Who Built A Hongkong Force To Fight The Japanese

Leaving today by the Shansi for Australia is a man who has served Hongkong unstintingly and well for nearly 20 years—first, as a professor in the Hongkong University; then, during hostilities, as the head of the military field ambulance service which took care of defence wounded; and, later, after escaping from captivity, as the leader of a force, composed in the main of escapees, which carried on the war against the Japanese in Hongkong from areas surrounding in Free China.

He is Colonel L. T. Ride, CBE, Professor of Physiology, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine of Hongkong University and, until the de-activisation of the unit, Commandant of the British Army Aid Group, better known as the BAAG. It is uncertain whether he will return to the Colony.

His other achievements notwithstanding, it is as the organiser, commander and brains of the BAAG that Col Ride is best known to the public at large today. It is now possible to reveal how the organisation came into being, and some details of the work which it did during the war years.

When Hongkong was attacked in December 1941, Col Ride was in command of the Hongkong Field

DR L. T. RIDE

Ambulance, which consisted of three Regular companies and the Hongkong Volunteer Defence Corps Field Ambulance unit.

Taken prisoner when Hongkong fell, he went into Shamshuipo Camp, where he tried to set up a medical administration to take care of the prisoners, but was handicapped by lack of facilities and the complete refusal of the Japanese to provide supplies.

DECIDES TO ESCAPE

When it became apparent that the Japanese had no intention at all of making medical supplies available to meet the urgent needs, Col Ride discussed with the G.O.C., Major-General Maltby, his intention to attempt an escape and organise aid from free territory.

He escaped from camp with a small party in mid-January 1942 and, after three days of difficult progress and narrow escapes from detection, succeeded in making contact with Chinese guerillas in the Saikung area. With their help, the party managed a few days later to cross Mirs Bay into the occupied belt adjacent to Hongkong. Here for some days and nights they ran the gauntlet of the Japanese, and it was during this time that Col Ride's pack, containing valuable documents and reports, was captured by an enemy column.

However, the party succeeded in reaching free Chinese territory, where the local authorities gave them every help and escorted them to Kukong, the wartime provincial capital in North Kwangtung. Here the party met Lieut-Col H. Owen-Hughes, who had been flown out of Hongkong in the early days of the hostilities to undertake liaison work with the Chinese forces in the enemy's rear.

FORMATION OF BAAG

The idea of the BAAG was born during Col Ride's long trip to Chungking to report to the British Embassy. Owing to lack of personnel and facilities, it was found impossible to put his full scheme into operation at the time, but he was ordered to return to the South China area to organise, with what facilities that were available then, relief for our prisoners of war. The scheme had the full approval of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek.

Col Ride returned immediately to Kukong to set up a headquarters and to map out activities. His early staff was small, and was composed entirely of military personnel and civilians who had escaped from Hongkong. This, in fact, was the unique feature of the BAAG from its modest beginnings until it grew, by stages, into the big organisation it was towards the latter part of the war—it was essentially a Hongkong unit; its personnel, with few exceptions, were Hongkong men and women who had escaped or voluntarily stayed in occupied territory to carry on underground work.

As soon as Col Ride established his organisation, he realised the immense possibilities of a British military force operating in South China, and he therefore sent into Hongkong for all Volunteers and members of the Forces not interned to join him. Parties were organised, in many cases including whole families, and they willingly made the hazardous trip into Free China.

REFUGEE RELIEF

Within a few months thousands of refugees were pouring out from Hongkong and arriving in Free China, many of them homeless and most of them penniless and without work. They naturally looked to the BAAG for help.

In the midst of its growing military duties, the BAAG undertook this additional heavy humanitarian work until the British Embassy sent a special department down to Kukong under Mr P. C. M. Sedgwick to take it over.

In the meantime, members of the BAAG, both military and civil, Chinese and British, were sent into Hongkong and the New Territories to set up contacts with the camps, and this was the beginning of the big intelligence system which was destined to operate throughout the war with such advantage to the Allied cause. Through this, information was constantly made available to families abroad as to the safety and whereabouts of their friends and relatives in enemy hands.

OTHER ROUTES

Distances in China are vast and means of communication primitive, and it soon became impossible to direct all this work from Kukong, and hence an Advanced Headquarters was set up in Waichow under Col. (then Lieut) J. D. Clague, RA, who had escaped from Shamshuipo Camp in April 1942.

Experience then showed that there were other routes of escape and making contact. Forward headquarters were thereupon established in other areas, including Samfou, close to Macao. The principal headquarters was at the same time removed to Kweilin, which had the advantage of easy communication with all areas for the work which the Group was doing.

Throughout these forward areas medical posts were set up to give aid and relief to the refugees who were leaving Hongkong in increasing numbers and whose plight, on arrival in Free China, was in many cases piteous in the extreme.

FAMINE RELIEF

But this medical aid was not restricted to refugees. The BAAG was operating in an area completely devoid of medical services; it therefore set up, equipped and staffed, with the help of local missionary bodies and Dr Wong Man's Canton Red Cross, large hospitals where free medical attention was given to Chinese officials, members of the Chinese military forces and to guerillas. In these hospitals, thousands of major operations were performed, and these facilities were ungrudgingly extended to all civilian air raid casualties as well.

During epidemics of smallpox and cholera vaccines were flown in from India and whole populations were treated; and as if this were not enough, famine on three occasions presented an urgent problem in both East and South Kwangtung. Famine was not only a humanitarian problem but also a military one because its results were aggravated by constant enemy food raids. The famine had to be relieved in order to save the people, to maintain their morale and to prevent them from being won over to the enemy by promises of food and better living conditions.

BRITISH FUNDS HELP

Rice and other necessities were purchased from Hunan and transported over vast distances by the BAAG to famine-stricken areas, where BAAG personnel organised food kitchens, supervised distribution and educated the farmers in growing winter crops. In carrying out this relief, Col Ride's previous experience of nutritional problems in Hongkong proved invaluable.

A large part of this medical and relief work was paid for by donations from the British people

(Continued on Page 4)

EDITORIAL

Scheme For Safer Soccer

TOP secrets have a way of becoming common knowledge, so that by now certain sections of the public are aware that it is proposed to build a football stadium in Hongkong capable of accommodating between thirty and forty thousand people. The proposition in itself, is acceptable enough, and it may be assumed that Government, made anxious by the many incidents of uncontrollable football crowds during the season just ended, will give any practical scheme a sympathetic hearing. The near riots which occurred at Causeway Bay over the past eight months made transparently clear (a) that football among the Chinese is more popular than ever; (b) Hongkong possesses no accommodation capable of holding the huge crowds who insist upon watching key matches; (c) the competitive spirit has been developed to such a point that it is likely to express itself in mob hysteria; (d) the danger of slow dispersal of crowds after a "needle" match; (e) combining all these factors, the grave risks of disorderly demonstrations, fire, (with its attendant threat to life and property) and the prospect of football degenerating into a mob-dominated spectacle. These are some of the contingencies which have persuaded the Hongkong Football Association, not only to sponsor a stadium scheme, but also to appoint a special committee to find new methods of controlling soccer in Hongkong. So far as the Football Association is concerned the stadium and the activities of the special committee are indivisible, and both propositions can confidently expect public approval. The erection of a huge concrete stadium, however, raises a variety of controversial points such as site, owners, users, cost, who is to pay, and whether it means alienation of privileges hitherto enjoyed by other types of sports players. Site of the stadium is certain to create the most serious cleavage of opinion. Tentatively, part of the Happy Valley sports arena, pre-war shared by the Hongkong Football Club, Civil Service Cricket Club, Police Recreation Club and Craigengower Cricket Club, has been suggested as the ideal spot for the stadium. It is not difficult to anticipate the objections, more particularly by Hongkong cricketers who will thus be robbed of three grounds for their matches. The issue will be joined in due course, and we have no intention of "beating the gun" in this column. It must be insisted, however, that no irrevocable decision be made by any authority, or accepted by Government, until the whole question has been thrashed out and all the alternatives considered. Anything remotely suggesting a fait accompli will be treated with the utmost hostility.

South Africans Win Comfortably: All The County Cricket Results

London, May 27.

The South Africans won their match against Glamorganshire by an innings and 131 runs at Cardiff today, but the latter county batsmen showed stubborn resistance.

The overnight pair, Robinson and Watkins, carried their partnership to 156, having put on 77 runs and then the eighth wicket stand between Wooller and Tamplin added a valuable 54.

This was much brighter cricket and the crowd applauded every run as Glamorganshire fought their uphill battle. But the task was too severe and the spin bowling of Rowan and Mann reaped the reward of accuracy. Rowan, especially, bowled well throughout his 29 overs, ten of which were maidens, and he took four of the five wickets which fell today, his final figures reading four for 59.

The county's last five wickets had nearly trebled the overnight total, which had been compiled for the loss of half the wickets.

Final day's close of play scores in first-class matches were:

At Cardiff: South Africans beat Glamorganshire by an innings and 131. South Africans 479 for eight declared. Glamorgan 128 and 220 (Robinson 83, Watkins 37, Wooller 37, Tuckett two for 29, Mann three for 50, Rowan four for 59).

At Manchester: Lancashire drew with Yorkshire. Lancs 327 and 176 for seven declared (Ikin not out 69). Yorks 209 and 251 for five (Hutton 86, Watson 57).

At Nottingham: Notts drew with Surrey. Notts 401 and 201 for 4 (Keeton 64, Hardstaff 85). Surrey 706 for four declared (Fletcher 194, Squires 154, Parker 108, Holmes not out 122).

At Southampton: Kent beat Hampshire by nine wickets. Hampshire 307 and 144 (Martin six for 47). Kent 444 and 69 for one.

At Lauton: Gloucestershire beat Somerset by 78 runs, Gloucester 231 and 334 for nine declared. Somerset 206 and 281 (Cooper 58, Gimlett not out 85).

At Worcester: Essex beat Worcestershire by one wicket. Worcester 371 and 172 (Ray Smith six for 24). Essex 260 and 286 for nine (Pearce 96, Ray Smith 57).

At Oxford: Oxford University drew with Free Foresters. Oxford 329 (Donnelly 114) and 121 for 7 declared. Free Forsters 257 (Sale 85, Mallett five for 29) and 148 for eight.—Reuter.

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Sitting on the Fence

by NATHANIEL GUBBINS

ACCORDING to reports the British Government are a little worried about its publicity department.

This may be the fault of the publicity department, but is more likely the fault of the Government.

This is the first Government to despise the personal publicity which the more widely read newspapers are so eager to publish and which has endeared statesmen of the past to the simple-minded electorate.

Will the Government allow their Uncle Nat to help them in this matter?

He is not asking for a job. He finds the writing of this piece quite enough for a bone-lazy man.

But he is willing to offer his services free to members of the Cabinet providing they will take his advice without question on a subject, which, after all, is their Uncle's profession.

Members of the Government must first of all realise that the people want to be constantly assured that public figures are human.

Deep down in the subconscious mind of the masses there lurks a suspicion that anybody who has got on in the world has done it by a trick and may be an ape or a white Zombie for all they know.

Therefore, members of the Cabinet will have to be humanised whether they like it or not.

Their wives and families will have to be dragged into the limelight and in front of the cameras.

We shall want to know how the Food Minister's wife gets on with the rations, if she waits in queues and what she does with stale bread.

• • •

OBVIOUSLY, here would be a wonderful opportunity for Mrs Strachey to say in an interview that there was no stale bread in her house and deliver a short homily on bread wastage.

Mrs Attlee's Uncle Nat is sorry to tell her that she would have to be dragged into it, too.

One of her predecessors was an excellent cook, and the newspapers at the time were full of little paragraphs about the Prime Minister's likes and dislikes in food, and the special dish, cooked by her own hands, which would cause him to break up a Cabinet meeting quicker than anything and send him hare-ing into the Downing-street kitchen to take a sniff.

Mrs Attlee would have to be presented to the public as somebody who spends most of her day peering into saucepans, concocting little delicacies, strictly on the ration, and driving the cook crazy.

Pipes are also important in publicity designed to make men popular.

Pipes are associated in the public mind with honesty, though it is hard to see the connection. They are also associated with peace of mind, which reassures nervous people in difficult times.

Mr Attlee smokes a pipe, though few people know it. His Uncle Nat would arrange that he was never photographed without one.

Uncle Joe Stalin also smokes a pipe, a fact which made him popular even with people who thought Communists sacrificed their aunts at the full moon.

Next in importance are doggies and kiddies. It is generally believed that there can be nothing wrong with a man who loves doggies and kiddies.

Therefore, under their Uncle Nat's publicity scheme, all members of the Cabinet must have one or the other, preferably both.

Those who are too old to have any more kiddies must have doggies. Moreover, the public must know all about the doggies—names, ages, sex and tricks.

• • •

AND what about the cat at Downing-street?

Mr Churchill was one of the few Prime Ministers who won all hearts but the hard heart of Mr Aneurin Bevan without the aid of pipes or doggies. But he had a cigar and a cat.

During the war a story was told about Mr Churchill and the cat at Downing-street.

According to the story, the butler who usually fed the cat was out. Mr Churchill was in bed. There was a raid on. But in the middle of all this and all the other things on his mind, the Prime Minister got out of bed to give the cat its supper.

Mr Churchill's Uncle Nat (if he may make so bold) has never agreed with him on political matters, though he was his Uncle's war hero, and still is.

But because of his robustious hatred of the Nazis, because he called Hitler "Corporal Hitler" and Mussolini "that tattered lackey," and because, with the burden of a world war on his shoulders, he remembered a little cat was hungry, no word against him will ever be written here.

The lesson to be learned from this is that the right kind of publicity will have its effect even on newspapermen, who are supposed to be so hard-boiled.

The Cabinet's loving Uncle asks again: "What has happened to the Downing-street cat?"

The Sweep

"WELL," said the Sweep, "ow are you gettin along these appy days?"

"All right," I said.

"And so you ought," said the Sweep "considerin you're probably enjoyin theighest standard of livin in the world."

"Me?" I said.

"Yes, you," said the Sweep. "And me, too, accordin to one of the eads of the Government."

"Well," I said.

"When I read that in the papers," said the Sweep, "you could ave knocked me down with a steam ammer. Cor stone the crows, I always thought they was a bit better orf in America."

"So did I," I said.

"To say nothink of Australia and Canada and them there little old Argentines," said the Sweep.

"That's right," I said.

"And what about them there little old Swiss?" asked the Sweep. "Cor strike a light, I always thought of them as yodellin and eatin their eads orf and makin cuckoo clocks in their spare time."

"Me, too," I said.

"And now I suppose they're just makin cuckoo clocks," said the Sweep "because you wouldn't do much yodellin on our rations."

"You certainly wouldn't," I said.

"Cor sufferin wars," said the Sweep, "if I started yodellin on a breakfast of a couple of sardines on toast I reckon I'd choke meself."

"Same ere," I said.

"Still," said the Sweep, "you live and learn."

"You do," I said.

"The Government may be right about our standard of livin after all."

"Maybe," I said.

"For instance," said the Sweep, "it ain't everybody in America what's a millionaire."

"I know it ain't," I said.

"Accordin to the papern," said the Sweep, "there's a quarter of a million families in New York without a bath."

"Fancy," I said.

"If most of them appen to be Negros you wouldn't notice it so much," said the Sweep, "but it ain't the sort of thing you'd expect in the richest country in the world."

"You certainly wouldn't," I said.

"You can't say you aven't got a bath," said the Sweep.

"No, I can't," I said.

"Even if it as been froze up for a couple of weeks with no coke to make the water ot."

"That's right," I said.

"So don't let me ear you natterin about emigration," said the Sweep.

"I ain't," I said.

"You can go further and fare worse."

"You can."

"And besides," said the Sweep, "the country needs a bit of work out of you."

"You, too," I said.

"Though I don't suppose your little bit of typin would elp much in the export drive."

"Nor your little bit of sweepin," I said.

"Before we git personal like what they do in Parliament," said the Sweep, "you'd better ave one for the rond."

"Thank you," I said.

"The skin orf your nose," said the Sweep.

"The skin orf yourn," I said

Letter from a cuckoo

DEAR Sir,—As your column appears to be read mainly by animals and birds, may I trespass on your valuable space to deny a rumour and utter a warning?

It is being said that, because food and housing are still major problems in Britain, patriotic cuckoos have agreed to change their habits so that they may not be an embarrassment to other birds in these difficult times.

As one in touch with influential cuckoo circles, may I say that there's is no truth whatever in this statement?

Sir, this is an age when many ancient privileges are going by the board, but I can assure you that the privileges of cuckoos, more ancient than the droit de seigneur, will not be among them.

As we continue to regard the building of nests as a labour properly assigned to the lower orders, the females of our species will continue to lay their eggs in other birds' nests as their ancestors did before them, using the occupants of such nests as the servants they were brought up to be.

When they grow big our children will throw these servants and their brats out of the nest, as they did at the time of William the Conqueror and before that.

As for food, we shall continue to eat what other birds have found or produced by their own labour, including their eggs, without the slightest scruple and heedless of any appeals to so-called patriotism.

My grandmother taught me to suck eggs, and I am going to suck plenty.

I remain Sir,
Yours truly,
A Cuckoo.

WILLIAM HICKEY

JUST DIAL THE SUN

By making use of atomic energy we are turning the very Solar System into our gas light and coke company, as if we had telephoned to some helpful agent with an office in the sun itself; we are trying to lay on and tap the fury and splendour of the constellations and galaxies; we have placed one halting foot on the stairway of the stars.—J. B. PRIESTLEY, broadcasting recently.

PRE-THAW: Entering cold railway carriage near Leighton Buzzard (Beds), RAF officer, wearing electrically heated flying jacket, plugged into carriage light plug.....Rabbits around Moston (Lincs), deprived of burrows by snowdrifts, climbed trees, sat in branches 25 feet up....London recruiting office reports best business since 1940. Recruits say: They're messing us about too much in Civvy Street."

CYNIC: Scene: An hotel just outside Pinewood: A woman: "If you want to hold Wardour-street friends never put their friendship to a test."

READER: General GEORGE MARSHALL (66), U.S. Secretary of State, can read four books a day—and often does. Says his secretary: *"In the middle of a book he shouts, 'It's no good,' then goes ahead and finishes it."*

SPRAY: Deprived by fuel-cuts of rubber-stoppers for export bottles, one London scent-maker reports high home-market output. "The factory kept going with the aid of an engine taken from the managing director's yacht....."

CRITICS: Particular BBC dislikes of an ex-BBC governor—HAROLD NICOLSON "....bogus audiences, sham sound effects, artificiality of presentation, back-slapping and mutual admiration, subtle self-advertisement, strained comradeship and the agonising sprightliness of the lighter programmes."

FIRE: Advising his firemen to cry: "Ma'am this is the Fire Department!" before breaking down the door, U.S. Fire Chief William Fitzgerald says that men in a fire are more modest than women. Commented London fire official: "It's different here. In 20 years I've never found either men or women keener to find clothes than get away from the fire. But many more women get trapped than men."

BRAINS: "On the average the second child of a family is a shade brighter than the first"—Psychology Professor Sir CYRIL BURT himself a firstborn, in a pamphlet on "Intelligence and Fertility." Other slants on the theory: WINSTON CHURCHILL (*"I was always bottom of the class"*): First born, C. E. M. JOAD: Only child. ITMA: Mrs Handley's pride and joy No. 2.

ASSETS: As young men become even more valuable to the nation (in 1950 only 295,000 18-year-olds will be available compared with 417,000 in 1939), increasing presure will be brought on the Services to provide more civilian trade training. SIR GODFREY INCE, Ministry of Labour man-power chief, said recently: "The Services cannot expect to take these valuable young men from us for 18 months without offering something in return."

SNAG: Someone said of Senator Taft: "He has the best mind in Washington until he makes it up."

TOUR: After 3,000 miles through France, Switzerland and Belgium, visiting 100 hotels, tourist organiser STANLEY MASON praises these countries for their "better road surfaces, more sunshine, unrationed petrol in Switzerland and Belgium (at little more than 2s. a gallon) and popular brand British cigarettes at 20 for 1s. 4d."

FUN: Highest pay yet for a personal appearance goes to American radio comic JACK BENNY, returning to Broadway vaudeville at nearly £10,000 a week. Comment: "It makes the boards seem mighty soft underfoot."

POCKET CARTOON

"Excuse me—have you a step ladder?".

BY THE WAY

by Beachcomber

FURTHER details of the Strabismus No-Way Traffic Plan have been announced.

Traffic moving from east to west in Oxford-street between 5 and 6 p.m. on alternate Tuesdays will have to go backwards, in order to allow a constant flow between Edgware-road and Hyde Park Corner. Piccadilly Circus will be widened and reconstructed on the lines of the Hampton Court maze. It will be reserved exclusively on Mondays for vehicles with no urgent need to go anywhere. By keeping them busy here, the northbound traffic in the Haymarket, will be able to go round by Balham, Battersea, Chelsea, Bayswater, Kensington, back to Bayswater, back to Kensington, Knightsbridge, and so through the Park to Paddington and Baker-street.

Miss Nutrition Intake

THE Balderdash Board has ruled that the title National Nutrition Intake Queen is reserved for the choice of the Ministry of Food. Girls chosen by local bodies are to be called Miss Nutrition Intake. Uniforms are being designed for them, and they will be empowered to enter any house without a warrant, in order to give their autographs.

The charms of music

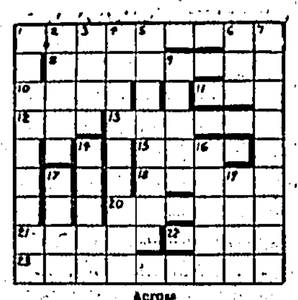
IT is being said daily that England is becoming fonder and fonder of good music. Play a gramophone record, and most people will be able to tell you what is on the other side. I can therefore assume that I am fulfilling a long-felt want by opening a correspondence course, to teach people how to play. Nothing makes the home circle more cheerful than a little amateur playing, no matter what the instrument. How often one hears the words, "I do wish my husband could give us a bit of Wagner on the flute during these long winter evenings," or "If only my wife could play Beethoven on the violin, it might keep the children quiet, and stop granny jabbering about Mrs Langtry."

Music by correspondence

THE TRIANGLE

THIS monotonous instrument is not always well suited for domestic music, save as a curiosity. Any child can bang it. It can be made out of an old stair-rod, bent into the requisite shape, and can be played by means of a meat-skewer, strong knitting-needle or other rod-like object. Complete tunes should not be attempted, but, judiciously handled, it will make a pleasant accompaniment to a little session of home chamber music. Its melodious ping adds a touch of mystery to what is going on.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across

1. Charm. (9)
8. In a plant you have this roadside weed. (8)
10. Some roundheads had these sides. (4)
11. It's that bird again. (8)
12. Noise from the line. (3)
14. Nothing in mum gives you this Stock Exchange term. (6)
16. Just a scrap. (4)
18. Where the sobs come from. (6)
20. Country that seems to doubt Ada's ability. (6)
21. This sort of organ may assist in breathing. (6)
22. To ten it has been penned. (4)
23. It's not original. (9)

Down

1. The name of Pert. (9)
2. Housewife's protector. (8)
3. The snail is for example. (4)
4. It gives Nan calico (9)
5. Repugnant. (8)
6. In split peas he gives you amusement. (8) 7. Name over. (9)
9. Purport. (6)
14. Hold tightly. (6)
16. Seen in high places, at a coronation, for example. (5)
17. This German starts a fraud. (4)
19. Turn of the tide. (4)

Solution of Saturday's puzzle.—Across: 1. Parlious; 8. Rouse; 9. Spin; 11. Rare; 13. Lino; 14. Truth; 15. New; 16. Mummers; 17. Oay; 19. Fault; 21. Flat; 23. Rugo; 24. Asia; 25. Crier; 26. North; 27. Tram. Down: 1. Frying-pan; 2. Aorta; 3. Fez; 4. Test match; 5. Technical; 6. Opine; 7. Snowstorm; 10. Inert; 12. Army; 18. Also; 19. Flat; 20. Lair; 22. Air.

NANCY

Bring an Oscar for Nancy

By Ernie Bushmiller

When You Feel Tired and Restless
take
Elliotts Nerve
and
Brain Tonic
On Sale at All Dispensaries

Women — This Space Every Day

BEAUTY ARTS

By LOIS LEEDS

Posed by Alexis Smith for Lois Leeds.

HINTS ON MAKEUP

When you apply your foundation cream "mould" it over the surface of skin carefully. Deepen the application under the eyes, in the hollows of the cheeks, then tap lightly with the fingertips and blot carefully with cosmetic tissues to achieve that mat finish.

Alexis Smith, starring in Warner Bros. picture, "The Two Mrs. Carrolls," poses here to show how she uses foundation cream. Alexis also has a clever makeup trick of tying her freshly done coiffure in a wide piece of veiling. It protects her hairdo and looks pretty while she makes up.

When pencilling eyebrows, use a well pointed pencil and keep the line light and sharp. If the eyebrows are thin fill in with little, backward pencil strokes, then brush the eyebrows.

Use a folded tissue or a real powder brush to make your face powder smooth and perfectly blended with your foundation.

To keep perfect harmony always buy rouge and lipstick in the same shade and of the same make. And the same idea applies to other makeup items.

If you use a lip brush always make a "frame" line around your lips, then fill in with up and down strokes.

If your forehead is very high, dust on the forehead a powder just a shade darker than the one used for the face.

If the nose is too prominent, blend a little of the darker shade of powder down the centre of the nose.

Really work on this and the more practice the more perfect your makeup.

Minute Makeup by GABRIELLE

Here's a new Bouquet of Colours to use as a guide when selecting accessories for now or for complete wardrobes for Spring. Opal Pink, Star Blue, Duchess Peach, Cloud White, Portrait Green and Violet Mauve are the new colours.

MAYFAIR GYM

Three London strawberry blondes believe that physical exercise provides the remedy for "squared-off" figures resulting from wartime service with the women's forces, and have set up business in a Mayfair gymnasium as a school for budding mannequins.

Their fortnight's intensive course includes instruction in poise, deportment, make-up, hair styling and self-defence.

In charge of the last-named department is the jiu-jitsu expert ringleader of the enterprise, 26-year-old Joan Rhodes.

As a sideline, this blue-eyed "strong woman" tears London telephone directories in half with her bare hands, can break a six-inch nail, and throw a man around with the ease of a full-size policeman.

No, she's not married.—United Press.

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith

"I have to buy a birthday present for the butcher's son—I can't neglect him while the United Nations still aren't decided about the atom bomb!"

Communist Party World Membership Totals 20,000,000

By HARRISON SALSBURY
United Press Foreign Editor

New York, May 26.

There are slightly over 20,000,000 active members of the Communist Party in the world's 46 principal countries, a United Press survey reveals.

Eighty-five percent of the membership is concentrated in Europe and Russia, with almost twice as many members in other European countries as in the Soviet Union itself. On a membership basis the overwhelming percentage of Communist strength is concentrated in Europe. In no other geographical area, with the exception of China, do statistics disclose a large Communist Party membership.

Data on membership was obtained in all but a few instances by on-the-spot checks by United Press correspondents, from Communist Party estimates and official reports. In cases where there is reason to doubt these estimates, United Press correspondents made independent checks to determine the approximate membership.

The survey shows the following geographical distribution: Russia 6,000,000; Europe exclusive of Russia 11,304,000; China 2,000,000 (estimated); Asia excluding China, Russia and Asia Minor 301,000; Near East 13,700; North America 141,000; South America 304,000; total 20,100,000.

The survey covered 21 countries in Europe, nine in Asia, six in the Near East, four in North America and six in South America. United Press figures are about 1,500,000 higher than the 18,500,000 reported at the official Communist Party conclave in London last March.

China's Figures

United Press believes its figures are accurate in all cases except China. Two million membership is that claimed by the party's leadership. However, United Press manager for China, Walter G. Rundle, commented that neutral observers place the actual figure nearer 200,000. On either basis the figure for China is the largest outside Russia and Europe. Its only rival for size is the now suppressed Communist Party of Brazil, which claimed a membership of 200,000.

Outside Russia the largest European membership is concentrated in Germany, where it is estimated at 221,125 including the SED, the leading party in the Russian-occupied zone formed by a merger of the Social Democrats and Communists.

Next in size come the parties of France and Italy, each with an estimated strength of about 2,000,000. They are closely followed by Czecho-Slovakia where the party numbers 1,700,000. The Yugo-Slav party is thought to be about the same size, although no figures were obtainable and Yugo-Slavia is not included in the survey.

Bulgaria's Claim

All other countries in Eastern Europe have comparatively large Communist parties. The largest is claimed by Bulgaria, with 850,000, followed by Hungary with 650,000; Poland with 600,000 which include the merged Socialists, and Rumania with an estimated 500,000.

Only a handful of members are reported in the Near East where the party is illegal in most countries except Lebanon. Lebanon is regarded as the ideological centre of the Middle Eastern movement, with membership estimated at 5,000 and an equal number in Syria.

The situation is much the same in Asia, outside of China. The largest membership is estimated in Indonesia, with a reported 100,000, but the movement there is split among a number of local leaders including several individuals who appear to have only sketchy ideological contacts with the regular Communist Party doctrine.

Country By Country Breakdown

The country-by-country breakdown follows:

Europe:—Russia 6,000,000; Austria 175,000; Belgium 100,000; Britain 43,000; Bulgaria 850,000; Czecho-Slovakia 1,700,000; Denmark 60,000; Finland 40,000; France 2,000,000; Germany 2,221,000 including the SED; Greece 75,000; Hungary 650,000 (unchecked official Communist Party estimate); Iceland 1,000; Italy 2,000,000; Netherlands 60,000; Norway 34,000; Poland 600,000; Rumania 500,000; Spain 400 (police estimate); Sweden 150,000; Switzerland 25,000; total 17,290,000.

Near East:—Palestine 1,000; Lebanon 5,000; Syria 5,000; Egypt 600; Iraq 200; Iran 2,000; total 13,700.

Asia:—China 2,000,000; Japan 70,000; India 63,000; Indonesia 100,000; Siam 2,000; Malaya 10,000; Indo-China 2,000; Burma 4,000; Korea 50,000 (figures for Malaya, Burma and Korea are unchecked official party estimates).

North America:—United States 70,000; Canada 23,000; Mexico 8,000; Cuba 40,000; total 141,000.

South America:—Brazil 200,000; Chile 50,000; Argentina 30,000; Colombia 5,000; Venezuela 20,000; Peru 35,000; total 340,000—United Press.

US-ARGENTINE SETTLEMENT NEARER

A final settlement of the dispute between the United States and Argentina, clearing the way for an inter-American defence conference, is generally expected to be reached within the next few weeks, reports Associated Press.

It may be marked by the retirement of George S. Messersmith as Ambassador to Argentina and the resignation of Spruille Braden as Assistant American Secretary of State for Latin-American affairs. The split between them over the conduct of Argentine relations has been wide and bitter. Both are believed to be ready to quit when the improved situation permits them to do it gracefully.

Apparently the impending change in the Argentine-American relations does not necessarily mean the beginning of an era of bosom friendship. American officials are still suspicious of what they consider traditional Argentina efforts to win leadership in Latin-America at the expense of the United States.

Nazi Agents Deported

The way was paved last week with the Buenos Aires announcement that eight more Nazi agents were deported. Argentina said she "considers she has satisfied all her hemisphere obligations."

Regardless of whether America accepts Argentina's claim at its face value or makes counter-claims, officials feel a way will soon be found formally to end the differences which have divided the two countries for five years.

Argentina has already met the American demands on two major points. First, she eliminated Nazi influences from Argentine schools. Second, she has liquidated Nazi control over powerful business firms.

Rogers Makes The Grade

"Who's Who in America," a publication listing nationally prominent Americans, now includes a cowboy actor, Roy Rogers.

Rogers, who has completed 67 western pictures in nine years, received 80,000 letters in February from his cinema admirers.

He estimates that, in Western screen stories, he has paid the mortgage on the old homestead 28 times; foiled crooked politicians 18 times; discovered missing treasure eight times, uncovered 12 spy plots against the United States; saved the heroine from the villain at least once in each of the 67 films.—Associated Press.

'Missing Link Is Here'

Dr Robert Broom, 80-year-old Scottish-born South African anthropologist, has found a second skull of the "Sterkfontein Man," who lived 20,000,000 years ago.

Asked if this is the "missing link," Dr Broom replied: "It's no longer missing. There it is."

The skull was found in limestone at Sterkfontein, Transvaal, where Dr Broom found the first skull 12 years ago.

It may aid in giving further knowledge of the earth's first ape men.

"They probably weighed 80 to 90lb., lived in caves, and hunted baboons and other small animals," said Dr Broom.

BASKETBALL ON DONKEYBACK

Basketball played from the backs of donkeys has become a popular attraction in President Truman's home town, Independence, Missouri.

In a return appearance of the little beasts in the western Missouri town, an American Legion post was pitted against the Junior Chamber of Commerce.

An Independence paper reported "there were plenty of spills."

Average Russian Now Said Living Better

BY JOHN HIGHTOWER
(Associated Press Correspondent)

The average Russian, in and around Moscow, now is beginning to live better than he ever has before—but by western standards he is still far from living well. That is the opinion of many Americans and western Europeans who have worked in the Soviet capital long enough to make their opinions worthwhile.

Some Russians live extremely well. They are top government officials, generals, other high army officers, writers, artists, scientists and other intellectuals who are greatly respected and much encouraged in the Soviet Union. Such people not only get many thousands of roubles monthly in comparison with the hundreds paid to the average worker but they also get special privileges such as extra rations, cars and chauffeurs and better living quarters.

The distinction between those at the top and what the communists call the masses is sometimes so great that some foreign diplomats say Moscow provides an example of a city not only with classes but with castes.

There are commercial shops and department stores in Moscow where anyone can buy anything he can pay for. There are also shops, some hospitals and at least one restaurant which are open only to designated people. These distinctions are made not on basis of the social position but on the basis of the work done or position held. In the case of Kremlin Hospital, medical attention is available only to high government officials, foreign diplomats and other dignitaries.

What Doctors Earn

Medical authorities told American reporters that equally good service was provided for other groups of people in other hospitals scattered over the city. A neighbourhood doctor in Moscow makes about 1,500 roubles monthly. Professors of medicine at the Moscow Institute make seven to eight thousand.

A skilled worker in factories around Moscow may make one thousand or more monthly. A director of the Stalin Automobile Factory in Moscow said workers there were paid an average of 900 monthly but that high production workers might make up to two thousand to two and one-half thousand.

An average worker in the lower income brackets lives chiefly on potatoes, cabbage and black bread with meat several times monthly. Vegetables and fruits are a rarity most of the year except in the top restaurants.

The average worker dresses as frugally as he eats and normally has to provide for a fairly large family. He is benefited somewhat by a rationing system which guarantees him the minimum amount of food at a fixed low price. But most Moscow residents said the regular ration was not sufficient and some food had to be bought at the open market where the prices are much higher.

The declared aim of the Soviets is that eventually prices of rationed goods will go up to a point where they meet the prices of non-rationed goods coming down and then rationing will end. As this adjustment takes place, money plays an increasingly important part in the average Russian's life.

Ukraine Drought

While conditions in Moscow do not necessarily reflect on those outside, the opinion of westerners in the capital is that things are tough all over. There has been a severe drought in the Ukraine and other southern areas and the worst post-war food crisis throughout Russia may be on at this time just as the new growing season starts.

In Moscow itself a housewife's food troubles are not over when she finally gets the food into her market bag. The problem then is to cook it. The average family lives in one room and shares a communal kitchen with other families. Westerners assume the crowding is the chief reason why so many Muscovites are on the streets from dawn to midnight.

Somewhat the same rationing principle is applied to clothing as to food. There are designated shops where the worker may go with an order from his factory and buy items he needs. For the rest the worker trades in the open market where prices are likely to be high since most clothing is scarce. In one shop silk stockings cost 35 roubles a pair and white shirts 235 each. Dresses of good quality, made by a dressmaker, may cost as much as 1,200 roubles. Men's suits run into hundreds of roubles. Many men, in fact, it seems, most of them, wear odds and ends of old army or navy uniforms.

SHOWING TO-DAY
HILKO'S
AIR-CONDITIONED
At 2.30, 5.10, 7.15 & 9.15 p.m.

ALSO LATEST METRO-NEWS

CENTRAL & ALHAMBRA
DAILY AT 2.30 5.15 7.15 & 9.15 P.M. DAILY AT 2.30 5.20 7.20 & 9.20 P.M.
— SHOWING TO-DAY —

NOTICE

Advertisers are requested to note that no advertisements (with no exception of urgent notices) will be accepted between the hours of 12.30 noon Saturdays, and 9 a.m. on Mondays.

From and including Mondays to Fridays, copy for the following day must be submitted not later than 4 p.m.

S. C. M. POST,
H.K. TELEGRAPH.

Instrument For Painless Injections

A newly developed instrument that promises to do away with injections by needle—including those of insulin for diabetes—was demonstrated in New York recently.

The injection is painless. No needle pierces the skin. In fact, no puncture of the skin is made. The solution whether insulin, penicillin or mercury, is shot right through the skin.

The demonstration was made by Prof Frank H. J. Figg of the University of Maryland Medical School, Baltimore. He used a small injection of adrenalin.

Dr Figg said he had been given the task of evaluating the instrument, and that he found it to be practical.

The instrument, so new that it has not yet been given an official name, was developed by Robert T. Scherer, a Detroit engineer. It is a metal cylinder about the size of a flashlight.

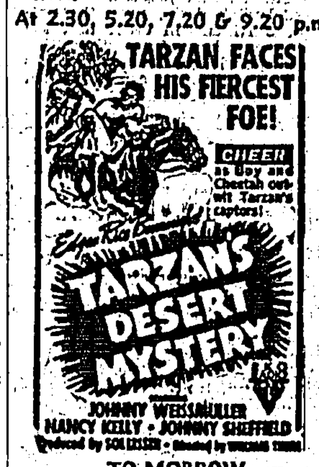
It has a powerful spring inside, and on one end an ampule, or metal capsule about the size of a .22 calibre cartridge, is placed. This capsule can be filled with the solution or drug desired and dosage measured.

In demonstrating the instrument, Dr Figg first wiped a section of the patient's arm with alcohol. Then he pressed the sterilised end of the capsule to the arm. He pressed a button, and within a fraction of a second the adrenalin was through the skin. There was no pain.

Dr Figg explained that the capsule contains an opening, 300th of an inch in diameter, and that the solution was shot through this opening at a pressure of 3,200 pounds per square inch.

The solution, travelling at terrific speed, is forced through the skin. When the job is done expertly there is no pain and no bad effects.—United Press.

MAJESTIC
— TO-DAY ONLY —
At 2.30, 5.20, 7.20 & 9.20 p.m.



— TO-MORROW —
PAUL LUKAS
in
"ADDRESS UNKNOWN"

Progress Report On Work Of Liquidating Vast German Assets

Washington, May 27.

Liquidation of the vast economic empire built up by German interests throughout the world has been going forward slowly but steadily.

However, a State Department official told the United Press today there is as yet no total figure available for the amount realised by dispositions of these assets, nor any comprehensive listing of dispositions to date.

The Commerce Department, meanwhile, has just completed a summary of general progress so far.

The programme for liquidating enemy assets is designed to provide reparations and to prevent enemy properties from ever being used in future to threaten world peace. This policy applies to assets in both Allied and neutral countries. And it applies to Japanese as well as German assets.

German assets are handled under an 18-nation accord formulated in Paris in December 1945. The signatories were the United States, the United Kingdom, Albania, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Czecho-Slovakia, Denmark, Egypt, France, Greece, India, Luxembourg, Norway, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Union of South Africa and Yugo-Slavia.

Japanese assets so far have been under the jurisdiction of a reparations committee of the Far Eastern Commission. The FEC member nations are United States, United Kingdom, Australia, Canada, China, France, India, Netherlands, New Zealand, Philippines and Russia.

Neutral Governments

Under the Paris agreement, each signatory government pledges itself to "hold or dispose of German enemy assets within its jurisdiction in manners designed to preclude their return to German ownership or control."

The agreement also provides that representatives of Allied governments shall negotiate with neutral governments to arrange for the liquidation of German property within their jurisdictions.

Representatives of the United States, United Kingdom and France have so far negotiated agreements with Sweden and Switzerland regarding the liquidation of German assets in those countries. Negotiations are now in progress with Spain and Portugal and will probably be initiated before long with Turkey and possibly with certain other countries in the Middle East and with Afghanistan and Eire.

Inasmuch as most Middle Eastern countries declared war on Germany some time before the end of the European phase of the war, the negotiations will be somewhat different from those conducted with the strictly neutral countries—strictly neutral in this sense, meaning those which never declared war on Germany and her allies.

Liquidation In Sweden

Sweden is the only one of the neutrals which has actually begun the procedure of liquidating German assets. The Swiss agreement has not yet taken effect because of certain technicalities which remain to be worked out.

At present, Allied representatives are in Belgium working out an agreement to cover the disposition of German assets in which nationals of United Nations countries have interests.

In the western hemisphere, according to the Commerce Department, "the work of eliminating German and Japanese ownership in 'spearhead' firms is proceeding in most of the American republics and has been completed in several." This procedure has used outright liquidation, vesting title, auction and the formation of mixed companies.

A special commission of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council of the Pan-American Union is studying the problem of ultimate disposition of German and Japanese assets in the western hemisphere. —United Press.

U.S. SHIP DETAINED IN GIBRALTAR

Gibraltar, May 27.

A 497-ton steamer, the Colony Trader, which arrived in Gibraltar last week from the United States, has been detained here, it was learned tonight.

News of the ship's detention came shortly after a report that an ordinance providing for the detention of ships suspected of being used for taking illegal immigrants into Palestine, had been enacted here.

Under the ordinance, anyone committing an offence against it would be liable, on summary conviction, to three months' imprisonment or a fine not exceeding £100, or on conviction on an indictment to two years' imprisonment or a fine of £500 or both.

The detention of the Colony Trader was made under this ordinance. The crew of the ship includes several nationalities, while the master is stated to be Greek. Her crew numbered 23.

The Colony Trader was on her way from Jacksonville, Florida, in the United States, to Genoa.—Reuter.

MOUNTBATTEN AS GOV-GEN?

(Continued from Page 1)

Lord Mountbattan's handling of the Indian situation the decision of the Prime Minister, Mr Clement Attlee, that no further special meeting of a full cabinet is likely to be necessary before he departs.

The Viceroy, who on his present programme will leave for India on Thursday, will have on the eve of his departure a meeting with a group of the Cabinet India experts tomorrow. Mr Attlee, who was speaking today at the Labour Party National Conference at Margate, is making a special journey to London tonight to preside at this meeting.

There is a wide belief in British quarters that the forthcoming Delhi conference represents the deadline for several fundamental political decisions so that the transfer of power may take place to schedule.

These decisions are: 1.—The settlement now of whether India remains a single nation or prepares forthwith to divide into Hindustan and Pakistan.

2.—An agreement immediately—if India divides—upon the method of reference to her elected representatives.

3.—The swiftest possible expression of India's desire upon the pattern of partition in order that the overdue questions of the disposition and redisposition of the armed forces and national services can be settled well in the right side of Britain's departure in June, 1948.—Reuter.

THE PARKERS . . . . . by HODGES

ALLIED CITIZENS IN JAPAN MAY START BUSINESS

Tokyo, May 28.

Allied nationals in Japan who have been long residents in this country and have not been outside Japan since the surrender may conduct commercial activity without SCAP permission, it was ruled yesterday.

However, they must confine themselves to the yen and are subject to all Japanese laws.

SCAP cited one American who has been resident in Japan since 1923 and has been allowed to operate a motor transport business. —United Press.

PALESTINE DELEGATES MISSING

Lake Success, May 27.

The Palestine inquiry was at a virtual standstill today while embarrassed diplomats sought to learn why six of the 11 delegates to the Commission remained among the missing.

Widely heralded investigation brought out the fact that all air, rail and ship schedules were unaffected—yet the initial meeting on Monday found representatives from Canada, Czecho-Slovakia, India, the Netherlands and Sweden absent. Fellow delegates of the missing men could not explain the delays.

The next session is postponed until Thursday when it is hoped that the missing men will appear or explanations will be made.

The Czech delegate was reported to have left London on Sunday. Another report said he probably would not join the Commission until he reached Palestine. If anyone had information on any of the missing delegates, none of it was made public.—United Press.

Special Planes Chartered

Lake Success, May 27.

The United Nations Palestine Investigating Committee is due to leave here for Palestine in two special planes, chartered for June 6 and June 10.

Each plane will carry 30 passengers and fly direct from New York to Lydda, Palestine. Dr Trygve Lie, UNO Secretary-General, in an attempt to preserve the complete impartiality of the Secretariat attached to the Palestine Committee, is understood to have decided not to include Arab and Jewish officials, suggested for the staff. The men concerned are Saleh Mahmoud (Egypt) and Mr William Epstein, a former captain of the Canadian Army.—Reuter.

PROFESSOR WHO BUILT A HONGKONG FORCE

(Continued from Page 1)

through such funds as the British Red Cross, Lady Cripps' Fund, the Lord Mayor's Fund and the United Aid to China Relief Fund, and this money was readily made available through the sympathetic interest of Sir Horace Seymour, the British Ambassador in Chungking.

The military side of the BAAG's activities also expanded as time went on. Being the only British military organisation in the area, it became responsible for all military intelligence regarding the enemy-occupied territory in and around Hongkong.

CONTACT WITH CAMPS

It kept up its contacts with the various camps, sending in supplies of drugs whenever possible and generally maintaining a close watch on conditions prevailing among prisoners of war and civilian internees. Operational headquarters were kept posted with all information likely to be of value in case an attempt was planned to rescue those in captivity, or to ensure their safety in larger operations designed for the recapture of Hongkong.

By this time, the BAAG had innumerable operatives working in occupied Hongkong, while the whole belt surrounding the Colony was honeycombed by BAAG people. There soon came a time when it became practically certain that anyone who succeeded in escaping from Hongkong, Macao and occupied territory in South Kwangtung would meet with a BAAG man, and would if deserving receive the necessary assistance.

Although it was never intended to organise mass civilian escapes, the BAAG became responsible for all civilians going out of Hongkong and for their onward passage, if necessary, to India. Numbers of skilled workers in Japanese dockyards and other establishments, in many cases with their entire families, were taken out of Hongkong to lessen the effectiveness of the Japanese war effort. The large number of civilians of all nationalities who escaped were either helped directly or made use of trails previously blazed by the BAAG for this purpose.

USAAF ACTIVITIES

Intelligence obtained by the BAAG on Hongkong as well as on movements of Japanese ships, troops and supplies formed the basis of a great deal of the operational activities of the U.S. air force based in China. BAAG personnel, spread throughout a large area, were also responsible for aiding the escape and return to their bases of U.S. airmen—shot down in the area. As the U.S. air force grew in China, this part of the BAAG's work expanded until it formed an important part of the unit's activities.

When members of the HKVDC, HKRNVR and Chinese members of the RA., RE and personnel of the Hongkong Chinese Regiment succeeded in getting into Free China, the BAAG took complete charge of them, feeding, financing and housing them and their families. When it was decided to form a new unit of all those who wished to volunteer for further service in other war theatres, the BAAG trained them and sent them to India. These men, who compose the Hongkong Volunteer Company, are now back in the Colony after serving with distinction in India, Burma and Malaya. Many of them served with the famous Chindits under Major-General Wingate. Their families, who remained in China, were looked after by the BAAG until the end of the war, when they were all transported back to Hongkong under the charge of the BAAG.

COUNTER-ESPIONAGE

As its work expanded, the BAAG constituted a constant threat to the Japanese, whose war programme in and around Hongkong was frequently the target of BAAG operatives. It became necessary to form a Security section in the unit, not only to prevent the enemy from penetrating the BAAG through agents or refugees, but also to investigate the ramifications of Japanese clandestine organisations and their collaborators. After the liberation, this security work became the basis for many of the war crimes trials in Hongkong.

Another side of the work of the BAAG in the forward areas was the dissemination of Allied news, both in occupied and unoccupied territory. News was received by radio from the BBC and other sources and short daily bulletins were issued both in English and Chinese and distributed over a large area in South China. These served the very useful purpose of maintaining Chinese morale, for the inhabitants of the forward areas were often very isolated and were thirsting for true news and information in contrast to the Japanese propaganda to which they were subjected. These bulletins were also smuggled into Hongkong. Exhibitions of Allied news pictures received from the Press Attache in Chungking were frequently held. This work proved to be a great morale builder.

JAPANESE PUSH

By 1944, London considered it essential to expand the military side of the BAAG's work, and in consequence of this, by the middle of the year, when the Japanese made their large-scale and final advance in China, the BAAG had in South China an efficient military organisation which, despite its other commitments and the obvious difficulties of the situation, was able to play a valuable part in delaying the Japanese advance and the capture of important American forward air bases. A BAAG rear party under the personal command of Col Ride undertook the demolition of hundreds of miles of roads, bridges and other installations in and around Kweilin. They worked directly under General Chang Fa-kwei, who was recently decorated in Canton with the CBE for his help to the BAAG.

During this period, the whole of the BAAG was put on a mobile footing. The War Office, in the meantime, had approved a scheme for operating behind the enemy lines. In all areas, the BAAG was continually compelled by marauding Japanese columns to make frequent guerilla evacuations. The main headquarters of the unit was forced to move from Kweilin, starting a long trek westwards with the bulk of its records, stores and many hundreds of wives and families under its charge, until it reached Kunming and was re-established there.

PERSONNEL CUT OFF

Personnel in the forward areas were at this time frequently being cut off, but they carried on their work smoothly despite many dangers and difficulties. One post which sent the families of its staff into the hills was even operating a school for the wives and children in a temple. Although communication was made very difficult, the intelligence work of the BAAG in Hongkong continued with little restriction right up to the end of the war.

When the Japanese surrender became imminent, Col Ride was in the forward areas behind the enemy lines. He returned without delay to Kunming for important conferences and to organise the immediate return of the BAAG to Hongkong. Their duties were to be to provide for the safety and requirements of prisoners of war and internees, and ensure the safety of important enemy documents, suspected war criminals and collaborators until the arrival of the occupying forces. Supplies of food, medicines and clothing were arranged and small booklets were printed for distribution amongst prisoners giving the history of the war in tablet form, political and home news.

HONGKONG RELIEF PARTY

On August 15, an advance party led personally by Col Ride was sent under American orders to Canton and Hongkong. On landing at Canton on August 18, the whole party was kept under guard by the Japanese for six hours and, after being refused permission to enter either Canton or Hongkong as no armistice had then been signed, they were eventually forced to return to Kunming.

All attempts to obtain permission for the RAF to fly the BAAG relief party into Hongkong proved unsuccessful, and they were compelled to remain at their base until flown in by an American plane on September 2.

Shortly before this a naval force had arrived, with Admiral Harcourt in command. Col Ride assumed the duties of Senior Military Officer until the arrival of Major-General Festing about 10 days later. BAAG personnel, both military and civilian, were on return to Hongkong drafted to various units, and the BAAG stood down on December 31, 1945.

WOUNDED IN FRANCE

An Australian, Col Ride joined the Australian Expeditionary Force as an infantryman in the first World War, being wounded twice in France. Returning to Australia after the war to continue his medical studies, he was appointed a Rhodes Scholar in 1921 and went to Oxford and later to Guy's Hospital.

In 1928 he came to Hongkong as Professor of Physiology, and continued in that position until the outbreak of the Pacific War. He was Dean of the Medical Faculty for over eight years, and for a long time edited the "Caduceus," organ of the Hongkong University Medical Society.

While at the University, Col Ride carried out an intensive programme of research work in nutrition, genetics and comparative racial physiology.

This latter work was carried out not only locally but also during his summer vacations in 1930 in Yunnan and in 1931-32 in British North Borneo. On these expeditions a large amount of medical and scientific data was collected on the aboriginal tribes in these areas. This work not only won for Col Ride his Doctorate of Medicine in the University of Oxford, but it also attracted the attention of two large American organisations, the Rockefeller Foundation of New York and the Ella Sachs Plotz Foundation of Chicago.

NUTRITIONAL RESEARCH

During his long leave in 1933-34 Col Ride was invited by the former to carry out a survey in North America and Northern Europe on the relation of the study of human genetics to clinical medicine while the latter foundation financed some of his researches into the nutritional problems of cholera.

This work led to nutritional research work on a wider scale in which he was associated with Professor W. C. W. Nixon, then Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at Hongkong University. It also proved of great value to various local charitable organisations engaged in relief work among the poor and needy. Due greatly to the enthusiasm of lay members of these organisations, this group became the forerunner of the Nutritional Research Committee set up later by the Hongkong Government.

Col Ride has taken a very active part in local sport. A keen cricketer, he played for the University and Hongkong Cricket Club for many years, being Captain of the Club 1st Eleven in 1941. In his early days here, he also played a certain amount of rugby, and also rowed in interports. He is an athletic blue of Melbourne University, and a Guy's Hospital rowing blue. At Oxford he was captain of the New College boat and a member of the Leander Club.

WORK FOR VOLUNTEERS

A keen Volunteer, Col Ride was put in command when the original Medical Section of the HKVDC was expanded into the Field Ambulance to fulfil the role demanded by the defence scheme. Recruitment was not easy, but Col. Ride succeeded in stimulating interest, especially among the local-born including a large number of Chinese youths, and made it an efficient unit which later did excellent work during the hostilities.

The HKVDC Field Ambulance had by this time become one part of the Hongkong Field Ambulance, which had three other Regular companies. In the middle of 1941, Col Ride was appointed to the command of the entire unit, which command he held throughout the battle of Hongkong. This unit also contained a part of the St John Ambulance Brigade, composed entirely of Chinese personnel which was attached for duty to the Hongkong Field Ambulance during the hostilities.

BRITISH FLOOD RELIEF FUND

THE FUND WILL CLOSE ON 31ST MAY

Already acknowledged (Per "H.K. Telegraph")	$255,201.15
Emmanuel Church, Homantin	62.50
Pupils and Staff, Sacred Heart School (2nd Instalment)	537.00
Jack Swallow	10.00
W. R. Loxley & Co., (China) Ltd.	1,000.00
Lammert Brothers	100.00
Diocesan Girls' School	360.00
M. F. and P. (2nd Instalment)	100.00
Per Wah Kiu Yat Po: Hongkong Fishermen's Co-Operative Benevolent School (10th Instalment)	16.65
"Charlie" (In memory of the late Mr H. A. Allen)	10.00
£40-0-0 and	$257,396.30

Donations should be addressed to the General Manager, South China Morning Post, Morning Post Building, Hongkong. Cheques should be made out to "British Flood Relief Fund." For the purpose of acknowledgment will donors kindly indicate their names in Block Letters.

Printed and published by Frederick Percy Franklin for and on behalf of South China Morning Post Limited at 1-3 Wyndham Street, City of Victoria, in the Colony of Hongkong.

Up-to-the-Minute Sports News:

TUDOR MINSTREL FAVOURED TO WIN DERBY

London, May 27.

The Derby callover at the Victoria Club tonight was: 11 to 10 on Tudor Minstrel, laid and wanted. 4 to 1 Sayajirao offered, 100 to 8 Blue Train offered, 100 to 7 taken, 22 to 1 Grand Weather offered, 25 to 1 taken. 25 to 1 Migoli offered. 28 to 1 Saravan, 33 to 1 Merry Quip taken and offered. 33 to 1 Tite Street offered. 50 to 1 Pearl Diver offered, 66 to 1 taken. 50 to 1 Parisien. 66 to 1 Cador offered.

Special place betting: 5 to 2 on Tudor Minstrel. 6 to 5 on Sayajirao, 5 to 1 Grand Weather, 6 to 1 Saravan; 13 to 2 Merry Quip.

Tudor Minstrel became odd-on chance for the Derby, following the report that if the going remains hard Blue Train may not run.

Business throughout the callover was light, Tudor Minstrel being most heavily in demand and laid to lose £6,000 at 11 to 10.

Sayajirao hardened slightly to 4 to 1, while Blue Train drifted in the betting to 100 to 8, but his supporters backed him to win £3,000 at 100 to 7 and willing to take more at the same odds.

The French horse, Pearl Diver, backed to win £10,000 last week at 66 to 1, was again supported at those odds to win further £2,000 and the price then shortened to the 50's.

Saravan was the only other horse to command attention and he was backed to take £3,000 out of the books at 28 to 1.

Bookmakers were taking no chances about the place betting and quoted special odds for five horses.

Earlier in the day most bookmakers refused to bet on the race until Blue Train's position was clarified and in London it was possible to take small amounts at even money about Tudor Minstrel before the callover.—Reuter.

FEATHERWEIGHT TITLE

London, May 27.

Al Phillips, of Aldgate, London, won the European featherweight championship at the Royal Albert Hall tonight when Ray Famechon, of France, was disqualified in the eighth round of a fight fixed for 15 rounds.

In the previous round Philips was sent down for a punch which he claimed to be low, but the referee ordered the men to fight on and Phillips took three more long counts before surviving that round.

Few onlookers doubted that Phillips was fortunate to snatch a victory in a fight which was going badly against him.

In the round before the bout ended he took five long counts from heavy body punches and claimed a foul each time he fell.

Then over-eagerness by Famechon in the eighth brought an unexpected end. The Frenchman wept in his corner as he realised what had happened, but the tears went when the crowd cheered him. —Reuter.

SMILEY QUICK LOSES

Carmoustie, Scotland, May 27.

Although one member of their Walker Cup team was beaten today, the American threat to the British Amateur Golf Championship is virtually as strong as ever after today's play.

Smiley Quick, the beaten one, lost to his compatriot, Ted Bishop, holder of the American title, who had beaten Quick to win that honour. Another lesser known member of the Walker Cup team lost, but all others who played today won through.

France is still represented and in Henri de Lamrel they have a challenger whom locals are beginning to realise is a sterling player. Count John de Bendern had a chance of scoring a triumph for Britain when opposed to the American W. Turnesa, but failed at the critical moment and Turnesa won on the last green.

Only part of the second round was played today owing to the large number of matches, but will be concluded when the whole third round will also be decided, leaving 32 competitors.—Reuter.

FOOTBALL RESULTS

London, May 27.

Results of football games played this evening were:

Second Division

Bradford 2, West Bromwich 4.
Nottingham Forest 1, Chesterfield 0.

Friendly

Leeds United, 1 Celtic 3

Third Division (North)

York 2, Wrexham 2.—Reuter.

TO-DAY'S BROADCAST

ZBW Hongkong broadcasting on a frequency of 843 kilocycles from 12.30 to 2.00 p.m., and 6.30 to 11.00 p.m., and also on 9.52 megacycles in the 31 metre band from 12.30 to 1.15, 7.30 to 8.30 and 9.15 to 11.00 p.m.

H.K.T.

6.30 Joe Loss and His Orchestra; 6.45 Jack Buchanan and Elsie Randolph; 7 De Groot, His Trio, and Orchestra & Ninon Vallin (Soprano); 7.30 Studio: "Swing Shop" Presented by Al Stott & George Lobb; 8 London Relay: World News; 8.10 London Relay: Home News from Britain; 8.15 Studio: "I bring you Music" Classical Request Programme presented by Lynn Frazer; 9.15 Studio: Vocal Recital of Negro Spirituals by Molly Birks (Mezzo-Soprano) with Betty Brown at the Piano; 9.30 Programme of William Walton's Music; 10 London Relay: News; 10.10 Interlude; 10.15 B.B.C. Transcription Service: "Scotland Yard at Work" "The Crime Wave"; 10.45 "Twilight Melodies"; 11 Close down.

NOTICE

CHINA PROVIDENT LOAN & MORTGAGE CO., LTD.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS

NOTICE is hereby given that the Forty-sixth Annual General Meeting of Shareholders will be held in the Jacobean Room, Hongkong Hotel, Pedder Street, Hongkong, on Saturday, 31st May 1947, at Noon for the following purposes:—namely, to consider the Annual Statement of Accounts and the Balance Sheet and the Reports of the Directors and Auditors thereon; to elect Directors and Auditors in the place of those retiring, and to declare a Dividend and Bonus, to appropriate the Balance of the Profit and Loss Account as recommended by the Directors, and to transact any other ordinary business of the Company.

And Notice is also given that the Share Transfer Register will be closed from 20th May, 1947 to 31st May, 1947, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board,
A. D. Learmonth,
Secretary.

Hongkong, 12th May, 1947.

NOTICE

CHINA PROVIDENT LOAN & MORTGAGE CO., LTD.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS OF EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

NOTICE is hereby given that an Extraordinary General Meeting of Shareholders will be held at the Jacobean Room, Hongkong Hotel, Pedder Street, Hong Kong, on Saturday, 31st May, 1947, at 12.15 p.m. (or as soon thereafter as the Ordinary Annual Meeting to be held at Noon on that date shall have been concluded) for the purpose of considering and, if thought fit, passing the subjoined Resolution as an Ordinary Resolution:—

"That the Capital of the "Company be increased to "$10,000,000.—by the creation "of One Million Two Hundred "Thousand additional new "shares of Five Dollars each to "be issued at such time or times "and on such terms and con-"ditions in every respect as the "Company's Board of Directors "may think fit."

By Order of the Board,
A. D. Learmonth,
Secretary.

Hongkong, 12th May, 1947.

NOTICE

HONGKONG & WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY, LIMITED.

Notice is hereby given that an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Company will be held at 18 Pedder Street (1st floor) Hong Kong on MONDAY the NINTH day of JUNE, 1947, at NOON, for the purpose of proposing and if thought fit passing the sub-joined resolutions as a special resolution, viz:—

That the Articles of Association be altered in the manner following:—

(a) Article 17 shall be cancelled

(b) In the third line of Article 71 the word "two" shall be substituted for the word "three"

(c) The following Article shall be substituted for Article 76 "76. Subject to any special terms as to voting upon which any shares of the Company may have been issued or may for the time being be held, upon a show of hands every member present in person shall have one vote, and upon a poll every member present in person or by proxy shall have one vote for every share held by him".

By Order of the Board,
R. G. CRAIG.
Chief Manager.

Hong Kong, Dated this Ninth day of May, 1947.